

Docket No.: 142

November 24, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application
Commissioner For Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450



Enclosed herewith for filing is a patent application, as follows:

Inventor(s): Nielsen, James T.

White, Nathan H.

Bender, Theodore M.

Manoux, Philippe R.

Bombard, David L.

Donohoe, Brendan M.

Knodel, Bryan D.

Title: Surgical System and Method for Connecting Hollow Tissue Structures

<u>· X</u>	Return Receipt Postcard
<u>· X</u>	This Transmittal Letter
<u>195</u>	page(s) Specification (not including claims)
<u>10</u>	page(s) Claims
<u>1</u>	page Abstract
<u>88</u>	Sheet(s) of Drawings
<u>X</u>	Form PTO-1449 and Information Disclosure Statement letter
<u>3</u>	page(s) declaration and power of attorney
<u>4</u>	page(s) assignment, and Recordation Form Cover Sheet
<u>X</u>	Check no. 8714 in the amount of \$1063.00
<u>X</u>	Nonpublication Request
<u>X</u>	Applicant(s) assert(s) entitlement to small entity status for the attached patent application.

This application is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/607,524, which in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/392,336, which in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/151,441, which in turn is a continuation-in-part of U.S. Pat. No. 6,391,038. Additionally, this application claims priority to U.S. Provisional Patent Application Serial No. 60/483,078, filed on June 26, 2003.

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112403

CLAIMS AS FILED (fees computed under 37 CFR §1.9(f))

	Number				Number					Basic Fee
For	Filed			Extra			Rate		\$	385.00
Total Claims	67	-20	=	47	x	\$9.00	=	\$		423.00
Independent Claims	8	-3	=	5	x	\$43	=	\$		215.00
<input type="checkbox"/> Fee of _____ for the first filing of one or more multiple dependent claims per									\$	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee for recording assignment									\$	40.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Total fee for filing the patent application									\$	1063.00
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account 502108.										

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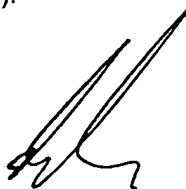
Respectfully submitted,



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REQUEST AND CERTIFICATION UNDER 35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(i)	Inventors	Nielsen, James T.; et. al.
	Title	Surgical System and Method for Connecting Hollow Tissue Structures
	Atty Docket Number	142

I hereby certify that the invention disclosed in the attached application **has not and will not be** the subject of an application filed in another country, or under a multilateral agreement, that requires publication at eighteen months after filing. I hereby request that the attached application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b).



November 24, 2003
Date

Brian A. Schar
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No.: 45,076

This request must be signed in compliance with 37 CFR 1.33(b) and submitted with the application **upon filing**.

Applicant may rescind this nonpublication request at any time. If applicant rescinds a request that an application not be published under 35 U.S.C. 122(b), the application will be scheduled for publication at eighteen months from the earliest claimed filing date for which a benefit is claimed.

If applicant subsequently files an application directed to the invention disclosed in the attached application in another country, or under a multilateral international agreement, that requires publication of applications eighteen months after filing, the applicant **must** notify the United States Patent and Trademark Office of such filing within forty-five (45) days after the date of the filing of such foreign or international application. **Failure to do so will result in abandonment of this application (35 U.S.C. 122(b)(2)(B)(iii)).**